



Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2021, No. 03

March 2021

MARCH SPEAKER

The March meeting will feature a presentation and discussion (VIA Zoom) of a new antenna design and the technology behind it by Dr. Jack Nilsson, N8NDL. Dr. Nilsson is an inventor and in his 25 plus years of RF antenna design and development he has been awarded a number of patents for his innovative antenna designs. He has advanced training in the sciences as well as his Medical Doctorate (MD). His antennas are used by several government and private agencies that need highly reliable data communications.

He has invented a series of antenna specifically for armature radio and some for those constrained by HOA'S .

(From The Amateur Radio Newsline)

LAST HURRAH FOR 'LAST MAN STANDING'

When "Last Man Standing" wraps up its final day of shooting this spring, it's going to be saying farewell Ham Radio style. The prime time show, which became a showcase for Amateur Radio through its main character Mike Baxter KA0XTT, is leaving the air after nine years – but not before it first gets ON the air on the Amateur bands. Executive producer John Amodeo AA6JA told Newsline that a big farewell special event station is planned for KA6LMS between March 14th and March 30th, the last day of the show's production. The show grew even more popular

after star Tim Allen made things real by getting the the callsign KK6OTD. It also featured guest radio operators on the set during meal breaks. John told Newsline: "Rather than have it slip away silently, we should have one more activation of KA6LMS now." With operators from the Great South Bay Amateur Radio club, the K2H special event station, the activation will give everyone a last chance to work KA6LMS in an ambitious special event. Be listening on CW, SSB, D-STAR, DMR, RTTY, PSK and FT-8. Consider it one last hurrah for "Last Man Standing." —Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 2256, January 22, 2021 L

AN ARECIBO TELESCOPE REPLACEMENT

Researchers have presented the National Science Foundation with a proposal for a \$400 million replacement of the Arecibo telescope – on the same site where its iconic predecessor suffered its fatal collapse late last year in Puerto Rico. The project would of course need funding from the U.S. Congress. Engineer Ramon Lugo said: "We have to be optimistic that we will make this happen." — Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 2256, Jan. 22, 2021

RESTORATION BEGINS ON WORLD WAR II ENIGMA MACHINES

It looks like restoration experts at Germany's State Archaeological Museum in Schleswig-Holstein are looking at additional work. After starting the one years desalination and restoration work on a World War II enigma machine found in the Baltic Sea off the north east coast of Germany in December last year, another six units have been found

(Continued on Page 5)-

Zoom meeting Thursday, March 11, at 7 PM. Check Page 7 below or Groups IO for meeting log-in information.

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
03	R		N5YBG		San Antonio, TX		March 2021
TO							

Hello SARC Members

After a week of snow in February, the winter storm is finally over. We saw record lows temperatures, record snowfall, and record outages of power, water and communications.

Hope everyone is now doing well and start thinking of Field Day 2021 in June 26-27.

Remember Stay Home, Stay Safe and Get on the RADIO!

Good DX

Rosendo Guzman – N5YBG

Bexar Wire

Published monthly by:



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The due date for articles is the **Monday** before the first **Thursday** of the month.

Meeting Agenda
7:00 p. m., February 11, 2021
Zoom Conference Meeting

President called meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Vice President Lloyd Swartz KF5ZHW – Program: Paul Guido N5IUT. Topic: Securing Your World

Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting

Absent changes, additions, or deletions to the proposed agenda, the minutes were approved without objection by unanimous consent.

Officer Reports:

President

Appointments

Newsletter Editor: Jimmie Neff WJ4M

Webmaster: **Bill Craft** KD2HIQ

Education and Training: David Finell N7LRY

Emergency Communications: Joe Bruno, W5AUQ

Executive: Harold Fleischer AE5AS (By Constitution)

Finance and Review: Paul Guido N5IUT

Field Day: Joe Bruno W5AUQ

JOTA: John Douglas W5NZK

Membership: **Bill Craft** KD2HIQ

Nominating: inactive; no appointments.

Radio Fiesta: Bill Craft, Jeff Boyes, Joe Bruno, and Rosendo Guzman

VEC: Pat Knight AD5BR

Centennial and Scholarship Committee: Tom O'Brien AB5XZ

Secretary – Jack Bannin N5JLB: Minutes posted on website.

Treasurer – Jeff Boyes, ND8B: Absent, but report read to the members by Rosendo Guzman N5YBG

Newsletter Editor – Jimmie Neff reported The February *Bexar Wire* newsletter was sent out on February 10th, 2021. The deadline for each issue is the Monday before the first Thursday of the month.

Webmaster – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ,

Website – Posted newsletter

Groups.io – Updated membership list

Mail chimp – Meeting notice, Zoom, Dues Notice

Facebook Statistics Pages Views from January 2 – January 29 100 Total Page Views 47%

Website Statistics - Sessions 813 -Up 5% vs. Previous 30 days. Page Views 1826 Up 9% vs Previous 30 days. New vs. Returning visitors – New 62% Returning 38% Device Break-down Desktop 61%, Tablet 2%, and Mobile 37%.

Membership – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ as 1/31/2021: 97 Paid members, 0 Free, 21 Family Members, 13 new members, 41 ARRL Members, a total of members 118. Membership cards now emailed to member as PDF file to print.

Chairman of the Board Report – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS: Board of Directors met on Feb 4, 2021, reviewed the actuals for the current budget year, and approved a balanced budget for Mar 1, 2021 through Feb 28, 2021. Reported on success of club's scholarship last year, plans for next fiscal year's scholarship. Ham-Com is defunct, and we will be moving Radio Fiesta into that date/time slot for the future. The next Radio Fiesta will be in June, 2022, the 3rd weekend in June. Education and Training – David Finell N7LRY: No Report

Executive – Rosendo Guzman N5YBG – Radio Fiesta has moved to June for RF2022. The Bob Rodriguez Scholar Raffle drawing will be held September 9, 2021. Prizes to be determined. Considering: (3) Yaesu 991A and (1) FT-891 HF/6M

Emergency Communications – Joe Bruno, W5AUQ: No Report

Field Day – Joe Bruno, W5AUQ: Not present, but information provided by Rosendo Guzman N5YBG. Several club members will check out the new Pavilion at Shavano Park for Field Day 2021.

Finance and Review – Paul Guido N5IUT: No Report

JOTA – John Douglas, W5NZK: No Report

Silent Key Committee – Bill Craft KD2HIQ: No Report

Radio Fiesta – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ:

VE Team – Pat Knight AD5BR:

We do not plan to have a VE session in February. We will try to arrange VE sessions for 2021, but anticipate that our usual library location will still not be available for a while due to COVID-19 policies. Working towards an outdoor covered session in April, 2021.

ARRL now requires that people testing must have an FRN prior to testing.

Contact the VE team at hamtest@gmail.com to get on our waiting list for testing or with any questions.

Centennial Commemoration (Temporary) - Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ: No Report

Scholarship Committee: Tom O'Brien AB5XZ: Requested four volunteers to meet via Zoom to work through the design of the scholarship program (eligibility rules, review, award processes, etc.). Bill, Rosendo, Harold

Nominating Committee: Inactive

Old Business (Motions carried over from previous meetings): None

New Business (Must be presented as a motion):

Bill Craft, Jimmie Neff solicited input, articles for the club newsletter.

Announcements for The Good of Amateur Radio:

Rosendo Guzman: Radio Shack is back, online only.

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:30 PM.



Volunteer Examiners at Work



This is the March 2021 Bexar Wire report for the VE team.

Next license exam session

We do not plan to have a VE session in March. We hope to arrange VE sessions for April and June 2021, but anticipate that our usual library location will still not be available for a while due to early voting and COVID-19 policies. Contact the VE team at hamtest@gmail.com to get on our waiting list for testing or with any questions.

You can look for other test sessions by doing a zip code search at

<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>

FRN now required before exam session

That ARRL web page talks about an FRN number being required. If you know someone who is not a ham yet who wants to take a license exam, let them know that they should follow that page's instructions to obtain an FRN before going to an exam session. Hams have an FRN on their ham licenses.

73,		
Pat	Knight	AD5BR
210-273-5927 iPhone		

Enigma Restored (Continued from Page 1)

. Unfortunately many of this find had been made unusable before they were thrown into the sea from German Warships at the end of the second world war. The machines, which resemble old typewriters, have inner workings that include three interchangeable ro-

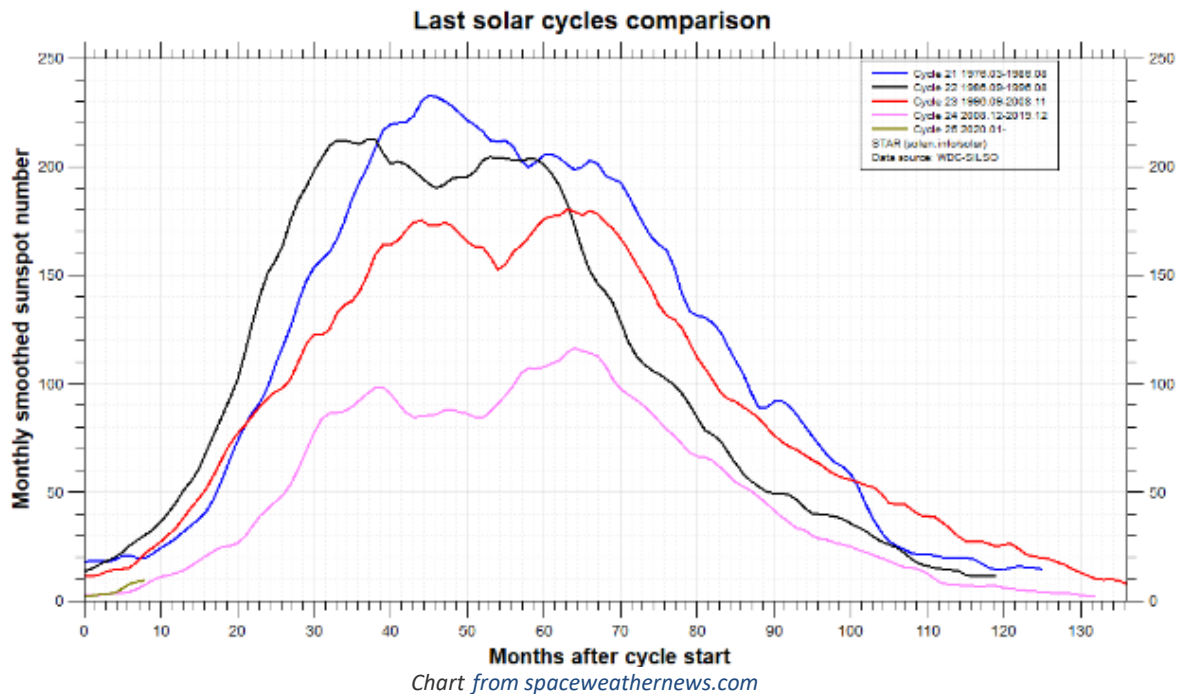
tors used to scramble messages. These messages were then sent using Morse code to another ship or land station that had another enigma machine to decode the message. Restored enigma machines have been shown and operation demonstrated both at Friedrichshafen and Dayton Hamfests. — Amateur Radio Newslines, Report 2258, February 5

Editor's Notes:

Anyone who has listened to the HF bands knows conditions have been atrocious. For a long time we have been at the bottom of the 11-year sunspot cycle. Well, perhaps in anticipation of better days, or to cheer them on, the ARRL is celebrating the start of cycle 25, meaning things should be on the upswing. They are offering T-shirts, coffee mugs, caps and Frisbee-like "flyers" to celebrate the start of Cycle 25. [ARRL :: Cycle 25](#) They may have

good reason, In a new article published in Solar Physics, the researchers predict that Cycle 25 will peak with a maximum sunspot number between 210 and 260. Cycle 24 peaked at 116. [New sunspot cycle could be one of the strongest on record, new research predicts \(phys.org\)](#)

There have been sporadic signs that things are improving. Last weekend I heard a station from Curacao working a contest on 15 meters.



Rosendo told me he actually heard some activity on 10 meters! Wow! I faintly remember working McMurdo Station in Antarctica on 10 meters with my little Argonaut 515. When open, 10 is a really long hauler.

Dayton Hamvention

Dayton Hamvention has been cancelled for 2021 due to Covid-19 and already sold tickets and booths have been extended to Hamvention 2022, May 20-22. They will have a QSO party for the 2021 Hamvention weekend. Check their web page for details.

Nevertheless, Hamvention has gone ahead and announced their 2021 Outstanding Radio Amateur Award Winners.

Amateur of the year is Angel M. Vasquez, Jr., WP3R. Vasquez is the head of telescope operations and Puerty Rico Coordination Zone Spectrum Manager for Puerto Rico's Arecibo Aobservatory. He helped provide communication support in the wake of Hurricane Maria.

The Technical Achievement Award went to Tamitha Skov, WX6SWW. Tamitha is well-known as the Space Weather Woman who

does spaceweather forecasting, a feature often seen on the www.qrz.com website. A credentialed spaceweather forecaster she is a research scientist for the Aerospace Corporation. She also teaches the art of space-weather forecasting to meteorologists t Mil- lersville University and is working with ARRL and HamSCI to create educational materials.

The Special Achievement Award went to Wesley Lambole, W3WL for lifelong, high en- ergy support for the science and art of ama- teur radio. He has supported youth coaching, membership recruiting and technical prob lem assistance "...with a smile and great humor."

The Club of the Year Award went to the ARRL-affiliated Vienna Wireless Society (VWS), K4HTA in Virginia. The committee said it was always difficult to choose club of the year from the many deserving club nomi- nations from around the world. The Vienna Wireless Society is the largest and most ac- tive club in the Washington, DC area. They have a mentor team, offer licensing classes, workshops and four educational programs a month at it s meetings. It operates two re- peaters in the DC area and actively supports public service communications.

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Silent Key Committee (From web master, Bill Craft, KD2HIQ)

The web site now has a silent key page [<https://w5sc.org/silent-key/>] that provides information about thinking ahead and providing forms to document what you have.

SARC does not directly buy any SK equipment, we provide a service to help loved ones dispose of equipment. The service consists of information, consulting and possibly disposal of equipment by donation.

We encourage you to plan ahead and make those hard decisions ahead of time so those who are left don't end up dumping your equipment in the trash. Not everyone plans ahead, most of us try to ignore the fact that at some point our health may fail or we may be called to meet our maker.

The goal is to help fellow hams and their families deal with this in their time of need. They do not have to be members of SARC for us to help. We offer our services to the ham community to benefit other hams and their families.

The committee can be reached by emailing SilentKey@w5sc.org



SARC has had a Groups.io. Its name is saradioclub.

If you haven't signed up for group.io, you should. Groups.io is our primary email messaging method to all club members. It is FREE for all members.

Several members have asked where are the notices, schedules and codes for Zoom meetings?

1. The groups.io calendar has a schedule of Zoom meetings and access codes.
2. The calendar can be accessed directly from the club web site <https://w5sc.org/events-calendar/> NOTE: it is the same groups.io calendar.

The saradioclub Group.io is being used to publicize SARC business meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes. Members of the saradioclub Group.io can and have asked each other technical questions or sought assistance.

The saradioclub Group.io is a closed group. To become a member, go to saradioclub.groups.io. (You may need to have a Groups.io account.) You will then need to select *Apply for membership in this group*. This generates a message. SARC members can expect approval to join the saradioclub Group.io in probably less than 24 hours.

SARC Tweets



Reminder: there are two active Twitter accounts for the San Antonio Radio Club. They are @SARadioClub and @ARadioFiesta.

The @SARadioClub is being used to publicize SARC meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes.

When work again commences the @ARadioFiesta will be used.

SARC members are encouraged to follow both Twitter accounts.

SARC Facebook



There is a San Antonio Radio Club – SARC (@saradioclub) Facebook Page.

The newsletter editor is making posts about SARC meetings and other activities. Any Officer, Committee Chairperson, or member who believes that they have information that should be posted to this page should contact the newsletter editor using the contact information for the newsletter editor on page 2 of this newsletter.

SARC members are encouraged to follow this Facebook Page

SARC SLACK



There is a San Antonio Radio Club Slack team – w5sc.slack.com.

Slack teams are meant to foster communication between team members. Paul Guido, N5IUT, has established the w5sc.slack.com team for SARC. He has also established some channels. Think of the channels as topical areas.

To join send an email to Paul Guido, N5IUT, at radioteacher@gmail.com. In actuality, any team member already a part of the w5sc.slack.com can invite you, but Paul is known to be on it.

Emergency Communications

If you are interested in emergency communications, contact:
JC Smith N5RXS

Amateur Radio License Classes

For more information, contact:
David Finell, N7LRY
Instructor

SARC Meeting Dates for 2020

January 14, 2021
February 11, 2021
March 11, 2021
April 8, 2021
May 13, 2021
June 10, 2021
July 8, 2021
August 12, 2021
September 9, 2021
October 14, 2021
November 11, 2021
December – No meeting

Meetings are normally held at Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216 at 7:00 p. m. Room is available at 6:00 p. m. for supper. **In-person meetings have been suspended pending the virus. Meetings will be on-line via ZOOM.**

License Testing Dates for 2021

Due to Covid restrictions the normal testing site is not available. The VE Team will schedule tests as sites become available. Go to Hamtest@gmail.com if you want to schedule a test.

Times and locations along with required document information can be found on SARC's website.

SARC does all of its licensing testing as a part of ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) organization so all of the Volunteer Examiners in SARC are duly authorized Volunteer Examiners of ARRL's VEC.

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

Webmaster: Bill Craft KD2HIQ
Billc851@gmail.com
210-233-8863

Field Day 2021

(Pending)

Where SARC proves they are an eating group with a radio problem.

Radio Fiesta 2021

January, 2021
Sadly Radio Fiesta 2021 has been cancelled due to Covid-19

JOTA

Boy Scout Jamboree On The Air
Pending Covid restrictions for 2021